

THE LACLEDE BLADE.

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NO MORE TOOTH PULLING

Plate Work is a Relic of Barbarism and Other Better Methods Have Taken Its Place

Other dentists may continue to solicit extracting teeth and making plates because they have nothing better to give the public in place of it, but I for one will "cut it out" in the future. It is nasty, dirty, bloody work and very little to be made from it. Besides, it often causes hard feelings. There is not one person in ten that is grateful to the dentist for doing this loathsome, nauseating work for them. It does not matter how skillful or careful the operator may be, the patient often declares that the dentist was rough, incapable, "cold-blooded," "tore the gums," broke their jaw-bone, wrenched their neck, poisoned their system, nearly killed them or some other frightful thing. I have actually had some people tell before I would extract their teeth that the last dentist had an "awful" time with them. It required four men to hold them while the dentist quietly but firmly placed his feet against their chest and pulled and pulled for hours, and just as the patient was in the act of dying the tooth came out. I once had another tell me the last tooth he had "pulled" the "tooth carpenter" drug him out of the office into the yard and back again and before the "puller" got the tooth out the victim blacked the doctor's eye and broke a plate glass window. This must have been shocking.

Fortunately for me, I have never had any such experience nor have I ever witnessed such an acrobatic performance. But I do know that such work is unpleasant at the best. Then if they get through the extracting alive and get plates, they claim the plaster impression ran so far down their throat that it "cut off their wind," stretched their lips out of shape, choked them till they were "black in the face" and their eyes bulged out until they resembled goose eggs. When they get their teeth the first cry is, "They don't fit." If they succeed in wearing them, as a rule they don't look like they used to, or the teeth come off and the plate splits. I have come to the conclusion that while such services as extracting and plate work cause so much trouble, they cannot be a very good thing for the public.

Now I propose to overcome all this trouble. It is and has been my desire during my 15 years of dental practice to give satisfactory service where and whenever possible, but after a fair attempt during my career I have failed and will likely continue to fail to give perfect results so long as I am burdened with extracting and making plates. These two branches of work have caused me more trouble and less profit than all things else during my whole life and I will not stay with it any longer. I refuse to make plates except in cases where I have already extracted their teeth and the people are waiting for their gums to shrink in order to have plates. I shall not even make plates for the people mentioned if I can compromise in any way satisfactory. I shall not extract teeth only where I have been treating them and failed to restore them to usefulness, which will be rather rare.

There is one sure and proper way to restore lost teeth without a plate, and that is Bridge Work.

It is true you must have three or four teeth in the mouth for abutments. If you have no teeth left, you are unfortunate indeed and will have to give your bundle of trouble to some other dentist, not me. Instead of extracting teeth and putting in a plate, I bridge the teeth to the remaining natural teeth. In place of pulling a badly decayed tooth or attempting to put a filling in it that cannot stay, I either crown it or insert a gold inlay and you have it for all time to come. I have so much of this class of work that I really have no time for extracting and plates. I shall do only that kind of work that will give the best results regardless of cost and work that will be a credit to me and make me lifelong friends instead of enemies. Of course, there will be people who will have their teeth extracted somewhere else just to show me they can, and there will be dentists who will pull them because they have no better sense.

There are many of the less enlightened people who think that extracting and plate work constitute the science of dentistry. The fact is that it is the tail end of dentistry. I venture to say that within 25 years plate work will be a lost and forgotten fogy art. The rising generation at that time will have to refer to an ancient dictionary of dentistry to get the definition of "Plate Work."

Within 25 years all the dentists that now make plates will be dead and the younger dentists will not make plates for love or money. They won't know how to make them, but they will know other and better methods. Within the next five years there will be a number of other dentists like myself, who will get their eyes open and refrain from the dirty and cruel practice of extracting teeth and the uncertain results of plate work.

Respectfully,
T. D. FAWCETTE.

Next Sunday at the Methodist church Rev. R. T. Smith, Ph. D., of St. Louis, one of the field superintendents of the anti-saloon league, will preach in the morning and Rev. Hartzler will preach in the evening. All other services at the usual hours. E. M. Dugger, pastor.

May Jones, candidate for county treasurer, should have the united support of every democrat in this township next Tuesday, and for that matter every democrat in the county. While it's not our fight or funeral, THE BLADE takes the liberty of saying to the democrats of the county that there are no better men in the county than May Jones and his nomination would be a credit to his party.

That the G. A. R. veterans are finally to be given a low rate for their national encampment at Toledo, Ohio, next month now seems sure. The action of some of the western passenger association lines in breaking away from the straight 2-cent fare by authorizing merchants' rates on the basis of one and one half fares, has brought about a reconsideration of rates for the national encampment, and if the interstate commerce commission will grant the petition of several interested lines for permission to make the rates effective in less than the required statutory notice, a round trip rate of \$22.06 will be made from Kansas City, with a proportionate reduction from other parts of the state.

LOCAL DOINGS ABOUT TOWN.

Pungent Paragraphs Picked up by Our Perambulating Pencil Pusher.

John G. Schaich, a Kansas City lawyer, was her last Saturday conferring with Chairman Burke and other leading republicans in the interest of the candidacy of Edwin C. Meservey for the republican nomination for judge of the Kansas City court of appeals.

The effects of local option were visible in Laclede last Wednesday. The town well was pumped dry. It is now up to the anti-saloon league to see that the water wagon is put into actual operation. Cold tea at \$2.50 per gallon is too expensive for all except league members and steps must be taken at once to increase the water supply.

It seems to be the prevailing sentiment among the republicans of this township as well as the desire of the great many we have talked with that George W. Anderson be elected township committeeman next Tuesday. Mr. Anderson has consented and will act if elected. Under the new law the township committeeman is an important factor in the party organization, and capable and competent men should be selected and we know of no better qualified man than Mr. Anderson.

A new time card goes into effect on the Burlington tomorrow. The only change of importance is in the Sunday train on the K. C. The Sunday train on that line will arrive from the north at about 11:30, in time to connect with east and west noon trains on the Hannibal, and arrive here from the south about 3:20 and connect with train 41 on the Hannibal. This run will be made by a freight crew out of Centerville instead of by the regular passenger crew.

The Laclede W. C. T. U. met at the home of Mrs. George Clark last Wednesday. The ladies are taking steps to have a lecture in the near future; also a speaking contest in the early fall. Those wishing to take part in the contest will please hand their names to Mrs. Georgia Savage. At the last meeting the union finished electing officers as follows: Mrs. Fawcette, vice president, representing the Methodist church; Mrs. J. H. Wilson, vice president, representing the Christian church, and Miss Venia Libby, press reporter. The next meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. T. M. Elliott, August 12.

There are more people owning their homes in Laclede now than ever before. There are few rented houses. This being the case, the town now has more pretty homes and well kept lawns than ever before. This is good for the town. Every modern home, with attractive grounds, neat lawn and graminoid walks adds value to every other piece of property in that locality. The Laclede of a few years ago has undergone almost a complete change. Nearly all the old residences have been remodeled or given way entirely to new and modern cottages. The old board sidewalks are almost a thing of the past and many streets where there has been no walk before are now covered by substantial graminoid and the work is still going on. The man who invests in Laclede real estate now has no chance to lose but a fine chance to gain.

Some Evening Reveries.

Don't think because you are fresh from the hands of your tailor and your barber, that you will pass for a gentleman unless you are one. You might carry the perfumed roses about you for ages without once being mistaken for a rose. Fine clothes and costly jewelry do not convert a tough into a gentleman any more than a stovepipe hat and a cigar make a man out of a monkey. A few smart, well learned quotations from eminent authors will not convey the impression that you are conversant with literature. You are apt to become scorched in the flames you kindle, for your literary friends will soon sound your shallow depths, and your ignorance will appear more glaringly than ever before. An extensive library does not make a lawyer; a sanctimonious face a minister, a pair of wings an angel. The world judges us by what we are, and not by what we seem. It does not accept a few flashes of wit and wisdom as the evidence of superior knowledge. If your mental attainments are not appreciated by the public, it is a sensible conclusion to arrive at that you are striving to be something which nature and education have not fitted you for. The world, generally, is quick to acknowledge true merit and genius, and have no grudge against you, personally, it will appreciate your efforts if they are at all praise-worthy or meritorious. True excellence in anything is only attained by unremitting labor. If you would be that which you are not, bend all the energies of heart and brain to the accomplishment of your desire. Whatever place your ambition prompts you to select as your field of labor, however lofty and difficult of access the height may be, fit yourself for it by slow and laborious process of study and toil. Begin at the very bottom round of the ladder, lay the foundation firm and secure; build your structure of future greatness upon a thorough knowledge of your life work in all its bearings. In fact, be what you seem, and seem to be nothing but what you are.

Take the sermons you hear home to yourself. If you divide them and parcel them out to your friends and neighbors, and the people in the pews around you, there won't be much of the "good seed of the gospel" left to bear fruit for yourself.

Take people by the hand whom you really wish to help. Don't stand on a high pedestal and tell them to do themselves the honor of jumping to your level. Either go to them kindly and extend to them the friendly hand of christian fellowship, or let them alone.

One person in a house, who has a lofty conception of God and pure ideas of life, can lift the whole family to that level, just as the leader of an orchestra strikes a ringing key note to which every musician conforms until the harmony is perfect. A stranger entering a household knows whether the key note there is high or low. There are houses affluent in wealth and culture, where the discords are incessant, and the meaning of life no higher than that of brutes. But no symphony can compare with the significance of daily life, in a family of gentle words and noble conduct.

Mrs. R. N. Sharp is visiting relatives in Marion county this week.

HUMANITY ON THE MOVE

Brief Mention of Those Who Come and Go During the Week

Miss Nellie McKisson is visiting in Iowa.

Attorney C. K. Hart of Brookfield was here Thursday.

Lawyer B. E. Bigger was over from Hannibal Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. Bert McKisson spent last Tuesday in St. Joseph.

County Clerk Johnson was here Wednesday taking merchant's statements.

Chas. H. Patten went to Kansas last Saturday where he has spent the week.

Miss Leo Rachford of Unionville is visiting her aunt, Mrs. L. E. Hamilton.

John Mize, who has been in Denver several months, returned home last Saturday.

F. M. Connor has been looking after a real estate deal in Illinois the past week.

Miss Mittie Clay of Shelbyville is here visiting her brother, M. F. Clay, and family.

J. W. Tooker, who has been ill for three weeks, was able to be down town Wednesday.

Miss Nira Cook is home from a visit at St. Louis and other places in that part of the state.

A. J. Linn has been here from Iowa the past week on business connected with his farm south of town.

Mrs. A. L. Loomis and daughter, Miss Ruth, of Meadville have been guests of Mrs. M. P. Benson the past week.

Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Hamill are receiving congratulations over the arrival of a fine boy baby at their home on route one.

W. W. Carothers, wife and daughter, Miss Ruth, visited Conductor McQuillen and family at Burlington this week.

M. Mahurin and family of route three and Mr. and Mrs. Harry Mahurin of Brookfield spent last Sunday in Laclede, guests of J. Q. Aber and family.

Mrs. Chas. Palmer, after a visit with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. M. Mahurin on route three, and other relatives here, returned to her home in Kansas City last Monday.

Max Jones returned Tuesday from his visit at Aurora, Ill., accompanied by his sister, Mrs. Evelyn Armbruster, who came for a visit with home folk and friends here.

The Brookfield fair people show good business judgement in scattering the races throughout the entire four days instead of trying to crowd them all into the big day.

Sheriff Anderson has distributed tickets to the various precincts throughout the county this week and next Tuesday the first primary election under the new law will be held.

There will be an ice cream supper in the park next Saturday evening, August 8, given by the Epworth league. Proceeds to go to a fund to buy a musical instrument for the M. E. church.

The Presbyterian, Christian and Baptist Sunday schools held a union picnic in Libby's grove on Muddy creek north of town last Wednesday. The hay ride and big dinner made the outing very enjoyable for the little folks and the older ones as well.